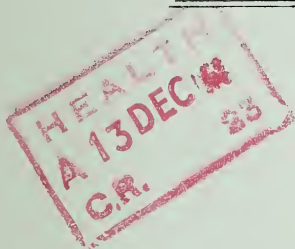


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BIDDULPH URBAN DISTRICT



ANNUAL REPORT

of



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR 1960

Prepared by :

J. TOLLAND, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health for the District

and

T. E. POINTON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Public Health Inspector



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URBAN DISTRICT OF BIDDULPH

*With the
Medical Officer of Health's
Compliments*

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BIDDULPH
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

I beg to submit the Annual Report for 1960.

The population increased by 170 during the year, continuing the trend of small increases only, shewn during the past four years. This small increase is also affected in the fact that the increase in dwellings in the year was only 54.

The number of live births showed an increase of 14 to 278 and the birth rate, both uncorrected and corrected, remains above the national figure. The stillbirths again declined, from 8 to 6 and the rate now approximates to the national figure.

There were 13 infant deaths in 1960, an increase of 3 on the previous year, but of these 11 occurred in the neonatal period chiefly from prematurity and its hazards.

Total deaths decreased by 13 to 117 giving a death rate of 8.5 (adjusted 11.8). As is to be expected disease of the cardio-vascular system, was responsible for the majority of deaths (49) with cancer (22) occupying second place, followed by respiratory diseases (19).

Of the cancer deaths, 5 were due to cancer of lung, all in males. The percentage of deaths in the area during the past few years is as follows: in 1956, 1.8%; in 1957, 1.7%; in 1958, 2.4%; in 1959, 1.5%; in 1960, 4.25%. In England and Wales 21,992 persons died from this cause—18,876 males, 3,116 females, an increase of 929. This, surely, constitutes one of the major problems of prevention to-day. To be effective, propaganda to combat this scourge must be continuous, largely central in origin, and directed toward the susceptible portion of the population. In my opinion, anything less vigorous than the actions being taken to combat road accidents and fatalities will be nugatory.

There was a very marked rise in the number of cases of whooping cough notified—59—being the highest since 1951. Vaccination against this disease has been pressed vigorously during the year, as figures shown elsewhere in the report will show, but protection is by no means complete, waning as the child gets older, and children of school age may well contract the disease, normally in a mild form because of residual immunity.

The district remained free from Diphtheria and protection against this disease continued to be given by family doctors, at the County Council's Welfare Clinic and at schools. A campaign produced a very considerable number of primary immunisations among previously unprotected school children in addition to 557 in pre-school children. Continuous propaganda is needed to maintain a satisfactory level of immunity in the child population, and reinforcement injections as recommended in the Schedule of Vaccinations are essential for complete protection.

Once again vaccination against smallpox was very low. Cases

of this disease are certainly rare in Britain, but it can be imported from areas where it is endemic, and as vaccination offers protection, it should certainly be accepted by many more parents.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis continued to be given to the under 40's, at doctors' surgeries, Welfare Clinics, schools and open sessions, and in the year the district remained free from this disease.

Eight new cases of tuberculosis were placed on the register during the year and seven removed. Thus it is evident that the reservoir of infection remains static. With modern drugs and surgery available this disease is much more readily treated than was once the case, but it continues to constitute a considerable social problem, both from the point of view of housing and welfare of the patient and family and from the tracing of possible sources of infection and finding the unrecognised case.

Industrial Development

The sub-committee appointed in 1959 to deal with possible industrial development held further meetings during 1960 and considered the matter of acquisition of land required for such development. Towards the end of the year the Council decided to make a Compulsory Purchase Order for the acquisition of Brockscroft Farm together with 6.59 acres of adjoining land.

Accommodation for the aged

Consideration was given during the year to the provision of aged persons bungalows and tenants meeting hall with resident warden supervision, in accordance with the policy of the County Council Welfare Authority, whereby a contribution may be made by the County Council for the provision of such accommodation. A sub-committee of the Urban District visited existing schemes of a similar nature in other areas.

By the end of the year the Council had approved in principle the provision of such a scheme.

Home Accident Prevention

The Committee to deal with this matter was reconstituted towards the end of the year and held its first meeting in November, when various courses of action were agreed upon.

Examination of Employees of Council

The medical examination of Council employees for admission to the Sickness Pay Scheme and in cases where excessive and unnecessary absence was involved, was continued throughout the year. 7 such examinations were carried out, 4 of employees found fit for admission to the Sickness Pay Scheme and 3 of employees absent from work.

I would like, on concluding this report, to express my appreciation for the very capable and willing help given during the year by your Public Health Inspector, including the preparation of Section D, E and F of this report.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN TOLLAND.

SECTION A

General Statistics

	1960	1959
Area (in acres)	6,647	6,647
Registrar General's mid-year estimate of home population (all ages)	13,650	13,480
Number of houses in the Rate Book at 31st December, 1960	4,257	4,205
Number of persons per acre	2.05	2.02
Rateable value at 1st April, 1960	£97,082	£95,741
Sum represented by a penny rate (estimated) for financial year 1960-61.	£396.23	£392.487

Vital Statistics

	Male	Female	Total
Live Births	144	134	278
Illegitimate births	(6)	(3)	(9)
Illegitimate live births per 1000 live births			= 32
Illegitimate live births per 1000 of total live births (England and Wales)			= 54
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	= 20.3		
Adjusted birth rate.....	= 19.1 (comparability factor 0.94)		
Birth Rate (England and Wales)...	= 17.1 (the highest rate since 1949).		

Note on Adjusted Birth Rate

Local birth rates are usually expressed in terms of population. These populations are estimated by the Registrar General and comprise persons of all ages, including many who quite obviously have no influence on the reproductive process. These latter do, however, effect the birth rate in that a preponderance of them in the population of an area tends to lower, and a small proportion of them to raise, the true rate. Considerable variation in the size of this proportion exists in different areas and it is therefore apparent that the elimination by standardisation of such a factor enables a truer comparison between areas.

A result on these lines is obtained through the issue by the Registrar General of a comparability factor for each area for use with birth rates. The adjusted birth rate resulting from the multiplication of the crude birth rate of an area by its comparability factor may be regarded as being comparable with the adjusted rate of any other area or with the crude rate for England and Wales.

	Male	Female	Total
Still births	3	3	6
(Illegitimate)	(—)	(—)	(—)
Still birth rate per 1000 live and still births =	21.1		
Still birth rate (England and Wales) =	19.7		
Total live and still births	147	137	284
(Illegitimate)	(6)	(3)	(9)

NOTE—The number of still births does not alter greatly nationally over the years. The main cause is probably difficult labour, and prevention is by adequate ante-natal care.

	Male	Female	Total
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year of age)	9	4	13
(Illegitimate)	(—)	(—)	(—)
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 births—Total =		46.7	
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births—Legitimate =		48.3	
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births—Illegitimate =		0	
Infant mortality rate (England and Wales) =		21.7	
(The lowest annual rate ever recorded in this country)			

	Male	Female	Total
Neonatal mortality (deaths under 4 weeks of age)	7	4	11
(Illegitimate)	(—)	(—)	(—)
Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births =		39.5	
(first four weeks)			
Neonatal mortality rate (England and Wales) =		15.6	
Early neonatal mortality rate (first week) per 1,000 live births			32.3
Perinatal mortality rate (still births plus deaths during the first week) per 1,000 total live and still births			53.9
Maternal deaths (including abortion)			0
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births.....			0

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths—all ages	58	59	117
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population =	8.5		
Adjusted death rate =	11.8		(comparability factor 1.39)

NOTE—This comparability factor is obtained and used, on a similar principle to that for comparability for births.

Death rate (England and Wales) = 11.5

VITAL STATISTICS

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES, 1960

	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	—	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	1	5
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	5	—	5
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	3	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	3	4	7
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	—	1
Diabetes	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	8	6	14
Coronary disease, angina	7	8	15
Hypertension with heart disease	3	2	5
Other heart disease	1	7	8
Other circulatory disease	3	4	7
Influenza	—	1	1
Pneumonia	6	3	9
Bronchitis	2	4	6
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	—	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	—	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	—	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	1	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined disease	8	12	20
Motor vehicle accidents	—	—	—
Suicide	—	—	—
All other accidents	2	1	3
	—	—	—
Totals ...	58	59	117
	—	—	—

Causes of Death

Tuberculosis: This caused the deaths of 2 males, aged 63 and 65 years.

Malignant disease (Cancer): 23 deaths were due to this, i.e., 19.6 % of all deaths. Cancer of the lung killed 5 men, aged 58, 69, 71, 76 and 78, 21.7 % of all cancer deaths and 4.27% of all deaths.

Cardiac-Vascular disease: This caused 49 deaths, mainly in old people, i.e., 41.8% of all deaths.

Respiratory disease: (Influenza, pneumonia, bronchitis and other respiratory disease) caused 18 deaths, i.e., 15.4% of all deaths.

ACCIDENTAL DEATHS, 1960

Industrial accidents: One death occurred, a man of 34 who was suffocated by a fall of dirt in a local coal mine.

Home accidents: There was one death due to this—a female aged 5 who died from broncho-pneumonia and burns sustained when clothing was ignited by an open coal fire at home.

Other accidents: One male, aged 18 years, who was drowned in a local river whilst trying to swim.

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1960—Deaths under one year of age.

Male—1 hour	Prematurity
Male—8 weeks	Broncho-pneumonia
	Capillary bronchitis
Female—3 days	Broncho-pneumonia
Female—3 days	Fulminating broncho-pneumonia
Male—2 days	Congestive heart failure
Female—4 hours	Atalectasis. Immaturity
Male—2 days	Asphyxia
	Intra-cranial haemorrhage
Male—4 days	Immaturity. Pneumonia
Female—1 day	Prematurity and Atalectasis
Male—7 days	Congenital disease of heart
Male—1 day	Prematurity
Male—10 months	Broncho-pneumonia
	Mongolism
Male—1 week	(1) Muconium Peritonitis Mucoviscidosis
	(2) Sclerema

NOTE.—Causes of Prematurity. The incidence of premature births shows considerable local variation, ranging from 5—11% of total live births. Its causes include multiple pregnancy, chronic disease in the mother, untimely separation of the placenta and deformity of the foetus—conditions not easily prevented.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Population	11,770	12,640	12,970	13,160	13,300	13,480	13,650
No. of inhabited houses...	3,860	3,973	4,074	4,123	4,157	4,205	4,257
No. of live births ...	194	236	257	284	244	264	278
Birth rate (crude) ...	16.48	18.7	19.8	21.6	18.3	19.6	20.3
No. of stillbirths ...	11	9	6	12	9	8	6
Maternal mortality..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
No. of infant deaths	5	14	5	12	5	10	13
Infantile mortality rate	26	59	19.5	42.3	20.5	37.9	46.7
No. of deaths (all ages)	112	114	112	115	126	130	117
Death rate (crude) ..	9.51	9.01	8.6	8.7	9.5	9.6	8.5

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority:

1. P. G. CANNON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.I.H., Medical Officer of Health (Resigned June 30th, 1960).
2. J. TOLLAND, L.R.C.P., (Ed) L.R.C.S., (Ed) L.R.F.P.S., (Glas) D.P.H., commenced 1st November, 1960.
3. THOMAS E. POINTON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Public Health Inspector.

The Urban District Council is the sanitary authority responsible for the environmental services. It delegates to its Health Committee "Authority and power to institute any proceedings or to do any act which the Council might have instituted or done for the suppression of nuisances and the safeguarding of public health but not the raising of any loans or the making of any rate or contract."

The following additional committees are responsible in one form or another with matters of public health: Water, Housing, and Planning and Buildings.

The local authority of Biddulph has no major responsibilities under the National Health Service Act, 1946. The County Council is both Local Health and Local Sanitary Authority as well as Local Education Authority. It has assumed new and diverse responsibilities under the Act. It is responsible for the following services: maternity and child welfare, domiciliary midwifery, vaccination and immunisation, an ambulance service, a health visiting service, the administration of the Mental Services, "care and after care" and the provision of home nursing and "home helps."

The following are the principal services provided by the County Council and utilised by the inhabitants of the Urban District.

1.—Ambulance Services (Section 27)

There are two vehicles—one ambulance and one sitting car—and a staff of four consisting of an ambulance officer and three drivers. The local ambulance station is situated on Council premises which have been made available for the use of the Local Health Authority. A new Ambulance Station was in course of construction at the end of the year.

2. Maternity, Home Nursing and Domestic Help Services (Sections 23, 25 and 29)

There are now two district nurse midwives, also two whole-time midwives.

The Leek Area Health Committee, under Section 29, is responsible for the appointment of domestic helps (home helps). Their function is to give assistance in the home during the incapacity of a wife or mother and they do not undertake any nursing duties.

The County Council is responsible for the other special health services, viz.: Maternity and Child Welfare and the School Medical Service. There are three Health Visitors for the supervision of nursing mothers and school children. All have, in addition, duties under the direction of the Tuberculosis Officer (Chest Physician), which involve the supervision of families with tuberculosis and the tracing and following up of all contacts with a case of active tuberculosis.

Laboratory Facilities

Biddulph is served by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Stafford. This is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health. It is a component of a free national laboratory service for England and Wales. The work of the Laboratory is designed to assist the Medical Officer of Health and the general practitioners in the diagnosis, prevention and control of communicable diseases. Its activities include the examination of throat and nose swabs, sputum, blood and excreta of human origin as aids to diagnosis of suspected and actual infectious diseases. Its sanitary work includes mainly the bacteriological examination of drinking water, the testing of sampled milk for cleanliness and for the presence of the tubercle bacillus and other pathogenic organisms, and the bacteriological testing of ice-cream, synthetic cream, and shellfish as distributed to the user or consumer. Its staff is available to participate in the investigation of outbreaks of infectious disease in the area which it serves with general aim of preventing or controlling disease.

Sputum. During 1960 the laboratory service investigated 56 specimens of sputum submitted for examination for the tubercle bacillus. All the specimens were examined by direct microscopy and 4 were positive to this test. 46 were submitted to examination by cultural methods, and 2 of these were positive for tubercle bacilli.

Faeces. 10 faeces specimens from food poisoning suspects, and follow-up cases were also examined. All were negative for pathogenic organisms.

Milk. The laboratory continues to report on the results of biological tests for tuberculosis in samples of milk submitted to it by the County Council and sold retail in the Urban District. 58 such samples were examined in 1960 and none was found to be positive for tubercle bacilli. All the samples were ordinary tuberculin tested milk. This is the seventh successive year, and among 472 samples, that no positive samples of milk have been recorded. This is a measure of the improved condition of herds. The County Council Milk Sampling Officer also submitted to the laboratory during the year 178 samples for bacteriological examination. 45 of these

were submitted to the phosphatase test—a test for pasteurisation—none failed. 26 were given the turbidity test—a test done on milk sold as sterilised milk—and all passed. 141 samples were submitted to the methylene blue test—a test for bacterial presence, which measures the cleanliness of the milk. 3 samples—all tuberculin-tested type—failed to pass the test.

A Table showing these results is on page 10.

The position regarding milk supply has to be constantly watched, though there undoubtedly has been a great improvement over the years.

The laboratory distributes in the prevention of disease, diphtheria prophylactic, and calf lymph for smallpox vaccination. It makes available measles prophylactic for the passive immunisation of contacts and distributes outfits for the collection of pathological material.

A stock of diphtheria and whooping cough prophylactic and poliomyelitis vaccine is kept in the Council Office at Biddulph for the convenience of the general practitioners, and for use at the infant welfare clinic.

Hospitals

The following hospitals are available for various forms of treatment: general, acute and chronic, sanatoria, mental and infectious diseases—Bucknall Hospital; North Staffs. Royal Infirmary; Haywood Hospital; Orthopaedic Hospital, Hartshill; Congleton War Memorial Hospital; Longton Cottage Hospital; City General Hospital, Stoke-on-Trent; Moorlands Hospital, Leek; Cheadle Hospital; West-cliffe Hospital, Chell; Groundsloew Sanatorium and Cheshire Joint Sanatorium at Loggerheads near Market Drayton; St. Edward's Hospital, Leek; Biddulph Grange Orthopaedic Hospital; Lymewood Hospital, Newcastle and Stanfield Hospital, Burslem. All except Congleton War Memorial Hospital are administered by Manchester Regional Hospital Board. Geographical hospital boundaries have thus been greatly widened by the Regional arrangements under the Act and as far as this district is concerned, have made the problem of finding hospital accommodation for the acutely sick a little less difficult than in many parts of the country. The problem of the disposal of the chronic sick has increased, in spite of the large number of beds allocated for this purpose.

Maternity cases, in an emergency, are received at the City General Hospital, Stoke-on-Trent. Part of the maternity wing of the Haywood Hospital is now available for normal cases without charge, and part is still on a fee-paying basis (private beds). Cases enter the Limes Maternity Hospital, Stoke-on-Trent, and Congleton War Memorial Hospital.

Mortuary

The Council's mortuary is situated in Wharf Road. Essential equipment is provided by the local authority and a mortuary attendant is available when required. The mortuary was used on three occasions during 1960, and three post-mortems were carried out.

BIDDULPH URBAN DISTRICT—MILK SAMPLING, 1960
BY COUNTY COUNCIL MILK SAMPLING OFFICER

	Total	Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase		Turbidity Test		Examined for T.B.	
		Satis.	Unsatis.	Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail	Negative	Positive
Tuberculin Tested	107	104	3	—	—	—	—	58	Nil
T.T. Pasteurised	27	23	—	27	—	—	—	—	—
Pasteurised	18	14	—	18	—	—	—	—	—
Sterilised	26	—	—	—	—	26	—	—	—
Total	178	141	3	45	—	26	—	58	Nil

SECTION C

Prevalence of and control over infectious and other diseases

The prevalence of notifiable infectious and other disease during the year showed a marked reduction compared to the previous year.

The number of confirmed notifications of infectious disease in 1960 was 86 compared to 278 in 1959 and 70 in 1958.

A table showing the notifications of infectious diseases during 1960 appears in the report on page 13.

Biddulph is fortunate in that the infectious Disease Isolation Hospital for the area is at Bucknall—a comparatively short distance away. This receives all types of infectious disease apart from smallpox which is treated at the Witton Smallpox Hospital, Birmingham. Bucknall Hospital is administered by the Stoke-on-Trent Hospital Management Committee. Admission is arranged directly by the local general practitioners and transport is provided by the Local Ambulance Service.

The Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education memorandum on the exclusion from school on account of infectious illness, appears on page 14.

Scarlet Fever

This disease was less prevalent in 1960—5 cases only occurred compared to 35 in 1959 and 23 in 1958.

The cases were mainly in the first quarter of the year. All were nursed at home.

The disease in general is now a very mild one.

Whooping Cough

59 cases were notified during the year 44 of them during the first quarter.

I am convinced that mothers should have their children immunised against this disease. There is no doubt that such immunisation lessens the effect of the illness, making it difficult to diagnose in many cases. The children can be immunised by the general practitioners or at the Welfare Clinic. The course is of three injections, one each month, commencing at the age of 5 weeks—5 months. A booster dose should be given at the age of 12 months.

Acute Poliomyelitis

The district was again free of this disease during 1960. The figures of cases for the last few years are shown on page 16.

Certain groups of the general population were immunised during 1960 against the disease, by general practitioners and County Council staff.

Measles

The periodicity of this disease was again shown, when in 1960 only 2 cases occurred. The figures for the last few years as seen on page 16 apart from 1951 and 1952, bear out this fact.

No case was admitted to Bucknall Hospital. The disease is normally relatively mild.

Diphtheria

There has again been no case in Biddulph. The elimination of this disease is dependent on complete immunisation of the childhood population. Parents should be fully aware of their duty to have the children immunised in infancy. The state of immunity is achieved by two injections with one month between, and should be commenced at 10 months of age. A booster dose should be given at age 5 years, and it is desirable to give a further booster during school life, at age 8—10 years.

The general practitioners or the welfare clinic are available to immunise children. Immunisation can be done against diphtheria and whooping cough by a course of only three injections, using special combined material. It is also possible to add protection against tetanus to the same material. It was, however, found that this combined material was most likely to produce paralysis if a child were in the early stages of poliomyelitis when injected, than by the use of the separate materials, hence the Staffs. County Council use the separate materials.

Vaccination and Immunisation

The following figures have been supplied to me by the Leek area Health Office of the County Council showing the work done in the District under the County Council's Vaccination and Immunisation Scheme.

DIPHTHERIA

Primary Immunisations carried out during 1960	Under 1 year	34
	1—4 years	523
	5—9 years	638
	10—14 years	422
		<hr/>
		1617
		<hr/>
Reinforcing Doses	5—9 years	243
	10—14 years	550
		<hr/>
		793
		<hr/>

WHOOPING COUGH VACCINATION

Primary vaccinations carried out during 1960	0—4 years	181
	5—14 years	2
		<hr/>
		183
		<hr/>
Reinforcing Doses		46
Smallpox Vaccination—primary	0—1 year	13
	1—4 years	11
	5—14 years	4
	15 and over	5
		<hr/>
		33

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1960

		Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute Poliomyelitis				Measles (excluding rubella)		Diphtheria		Dysentery		Meningo-coccal infection	
						Paralytic		Non-Par.									
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Numbers originally notified		2	3	26	33	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Total (All Ages)		2	3	26	33	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Final numbers after correction																	
Under 1 year				1	2												
1—				3	1												
2—			1	5	3												
3—				1	2					2	—						
4—				1	3												
5—9		1	1	15	17												
10—14		1	1		4												
15—24					1												
25 and over																	
Age unknown																	
Total (All Ages)		2	3	26	33	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Acute Pneumonia		Smallpox		Acute Encephalitis				Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Para-typhoid Fevers		Erysipelas		Food Poisoning	
						infectious		Post Infective									
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Numbers originally notified		6	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Total (All Ages)		6	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Final numbers after correction																	
Under 5 years																	
5—14		1															
15—44		3															
45—64		2	2											2	—		
65 and over			1														
Age unknown																	
Total (All Ages)		6	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
		Tuberculosis												Other Notifiable Diseases			
		Respira tory		Meninges and C.N.S.		Other								Original		Final	
		M	F	M	F	M	F							M	F	M	F
Numbers originally notified		4	3	—	—	—	1										
Total (All Ages)		4	3	—	—	—	1										
Final numbers after correction																	
Under 5 years																	
5—14		1															
15—24																	
25—44		1	3														
45—64		2															
65 and over																	
Age unknown																	
Total (All Ages)		4	3	—	—	—	1										
														Puerperal Pyrexia			
														—	1	—	1
														Opthalmia Neonatorum			
														—	—	—	—

INCUBATION AND EXCLUSION PERIODS OF THE COMMONER INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN AND SCHOOL STAFF.

PERIOD OF EXCLUSION		
Usual incubation period (days)	Interval between onset and appearance of rash days	PATIENTS
Scarlet Fever (and streptococcal sore throat) (Variants of the same disease)	2—5 1—2	3 weeks, plus 7 days after discharge from hospital or from home isolation. (Unless 'cold in the head,' discharge from the nose or ear, sore throat, or septic spots be present, which condition must be cured before return to school).
Diphtheria	2—5 —	Until pronounced by a medical practitioner to be fit and free from infection.
Measles	10—15 3—4	10 days after the appearance of the rash if child appears well.
German Measles	14—21 0—2	7 days from the appearance of the rash.
Whooping Cough	7—10 —	28 days from the beginning of the characteristic cough.
Mumps	12—28 —	7 days from the subsidence of all swelling.
Chickenpox	11—21 0—2	14 days from the date of appearance of the rash.
Polio myelitis	7—14 —	(At least 6 weeks)
Encephalitis	4—30 —	(Will usually require a) (much longer period for) (recovery.)
Meningococcal Infection	2—10 —	Until declared fit by Medical Officer of Health or 6 negative stools for enteric and 3 negative stools for dysentery and food poisoning.
Alimentary Infections (Enteric fever, dysentery, food poisoning).	— —	Contacts who have positive stools, though no illness, should be excluded until stools negative (3 specimens).
		Contacts, i.e., the other members of the family or household living together as a family, that is, in one tenement.
		Children—no exclusion. Persons engaged in the preparation or service of school meals to be excluded until Medical Officer of Health certifies that they may resume work.
		At least 7 days . Return to school should not be permitted until bacteriological examination has proved negative.
		Children under 5 years of age should be excluded for 14 days from the date of the appearance of the rash in the last case in the house. Other contacts can attend school. Any contact suffering from a cough, cold, chill or red eyes should be immediately excluded. A child who is known with certainty to have had the disease need not be excluded.
		None.
		Children under 7 years of age should be excluded for 21 days from the date of onset of the disease in the last case in the house. A child who is known with certainty to have had the disease need not be excluded.
		None.
		None.
		At least 21 days.

NOTE.—Staff who develop or are in contact with Staphylococcal Infections likely to cause food poisoning, e.g. septic infections of the hands, forearms and face, should be immediately suspended from duty and not permitted to resume work until the Medical Officer of Health has stated that it is reasonably safe for them to do so.

Revaccination

POLIO.—No separate figures available for the district.

Acute Pneumonia

This disease decreased in 1960 to 9 cases, compared to 22 in 1959. The majority—5, were over 45 years of age.

No admissions were made to Hospital.

Erysipelas

Two cases only, males of 56 and 62 years, were notified. The disease in general is a mild one, and neither case was admitted to Bucknall Hospital.

Food Poisoning

One case only was notified in 1960 but was not confirmed.

Tuberculosis

The year commenced with a total of 81 persons on the Register, and a further 8 persons were added during the year—all these 8 were new cases. It was possible to remove 7 names from the Register so that a total number of 82 persons were on the Register at the end of 1960.

The new cases are always of interest.

7 of the 8 cases were of pulmonary type. The ages were:—

Males—7, 37, 54, 64 years

Females—32, 34, 34 years

Over the last ten years the number of new cases has been fairly steady. The proportion of cases in Biddulph at 31-12-60 is six per 1,000 population.

The four deaths in those who are on the Tuberculosis Register were a female of 58 years, notified in 1960, a male of 65, first notified 12 years before, a male of 77, first notified in 1956 and a male of 66 notified in 1959.

The Health visitors provide progress reports on tuberculosis patients already on the register and reports upon environmental conditions in patients first diagnosed in 1960 or late 1959.

Progress reports should be submitted on every patient each 6 months and an environmental report is required on each new patient, so that contacts can be brought in for examination.

BIDDULPH URBAN DISTRICT — CONFIRMED NOTIFICATIONS 1951—1960

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Scarlet Fever	12	16	25	14	3	29	12	23	35	5
Whooping Cough	94	49	56	2	58	19	6	—	1	59
Acute Poliomyelitis										
Paralytic	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic	2	1	—	—	—	1	4	1	—	—
Measles	204	154	181	51	165	99	218	23	212	2
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infection	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Ac. Pneumonia	35	21	15	21	15	10	14	11	22	9
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute encephalitis										
Infective	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Post-Infectious	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid fevers	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	1	5	1	—	2	2	—	1	2
Food Poisoning	—	3	—	3	1	1	10	—	2	—
Tuberculosis										
Respiratory	11	9	10	10	15	6	11	9	5	7
Non-Respiratory	4	4	—	3	2	—	5	2	—	1
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	367	265	295	108	259	169	283	69	278	86

SCHEDULE OF IMMUNISATIONS

Age of Child	Immunisation against	No. of injections needed
5 weeks—5 months	Whooping Cough	3 at approximately 4 weekly intervals
6—9 months	Poliomyelitis	2 at approximately 4 weekly intervals
10—12 months	Diphtheria	2 at approximately 4 weekly intervals
	Whooping Cough (booster)	1 at same time as second diphtheria injection but into opposite arm.
18—24 months	Poliomyelitis (booster)	1
Vaccination against Smallpox some time during the first 5 years		
School entry year	Diphtheria (booster)	1
	Polio (Booster)	1
8—10 years	Diphtheria and Smallpox (re-vaccination)	1) 1) At an interval of) at least 4 weeks
From 13 years until school leaving age	Tuberculosis (B.C.G.)	1

TUBERCULOSIS, 1960

	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
Number of cases on Register at 21.12.59	35	2	34	10	81
Number of cases added during the year	4	—	3	1	8
Number of cases removed during year	3	—	1	3	7
Number of cases on Register at 31.12.60	36	2	36	8	82

Cases added to the Register:

New notifications 8

Total ... 8

Cases removed from the Register:

Recovered 3

Died 4

Removed to other areas —

Lost sight... of —

Total... 7

SECTION D

Water Supplies

The year 1959 ended on a note of caution—heavy demands had, due to the drought, been made on the system, the water level in the borehole had dropped substantially and it had been necessary to emphasise to consumers the very real need to avoid any waste of water.

During 1960 overall consumption has shown only a slight decrease as against 1959 and the water level in the Elmhurst borehole has remained at the same low level. This is not as the result of unusual weather conditions nor excessive wastage, but simply to the increasing population and the maintenance of a higher rate of individual consumption arising from improving domestic standards.

The measures necessary to meet the situation such as to ensure the availability when required of additional supplies were initially considered in detail by the Council early in the year and an overall policy formulated which anticipates the establishment of a new borehole within the next 2—3 years.

Care and conservation in the use of water continues to be necessary and further publicity was given to this aspect during the year.

Further work was carried out on the distribution system, in the renewal of mains in Well Lane and Newpool Road and the laying of new mains to serve residential development off Woodhouse Lane and Mill Hayes Road.

At present 4207 houses comprising 98.8% of the population have a piped supply direct to the premises with only 50 houses having no piped supply.

MONTHLY YIELD OF WATER SUPPLIES AT SOURCE (1960)

(Thousands of gallons per 24 hours)

	Elmhurst Borehole	Biddulph Park Springs	Nettlebeds Well	Total
January	369	84	15	468
February	352	99	37	488
March	374	102	27	503
April	355	92	20	467
May	363	81	13	457
June	376	89	14	479
July	361	82	12	455
August	357	80	11	448
September	370	87	19	476
October	356	107	25	488
November	356	100	28	484
December	347	99	29	475
Daily Average	362	92	21	475

Total water drawn from the above sources during the year: 172,608,000 gallons.

Number of metered supplies: 289.

Total water supplied by meter: 26,052,000 gallons as follows:

- (i) Industry 9,714,000
- (ii) Schools, Hospitals... .. 4,091,000
- (iii) Horticulture 435,000
- (iv) Farms and others... .. 11,812,000

Overall consumption per head per day: 35.5 gallons.

Overall consumption (non-metered supplies only) per head per day: 30.2 gallons.

SAMPLES—WATER SUPPLIES

Source	Bacteriological	Chemical	Remarks
Raw Supplies— Biddulph Park Springs	6	1	Satisfactory
Elmhurst Borehole	6	1	Satisfactory
Nettlebeds Well	1	—	Satisfactory
Piped Supplies— Biddulph Park Supply (Chlorinated)	6	1	Satisfactory
Biddulph Moor Supply (Chlorinated)	6	—	Satisfactory
Whitemoor Supply Mid-Cheshire	4	1	2 bacteriological unsatisfactory
Private Supply	1	—	Satisfactory
	2	—	Unsatisfactory

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following is a summary of the principal work undertaken under the Public Health Act, etc., during the year. 90 complaints were received and investigated. 36 preliminary notices were served. Inspections and revisits made with respect to:—

Housing and other defects	236
Nuisances or defects found	119
Nuisances or defects remedied	89
Drainage... ..	200
Closet conversions	134
Watercourses, ditches, etc... ..	25
Sewers	8
Water supply (sampling, etc.)	23
Caravans	19
Miscellaneous	122
Refuse collection, etc.	201
Interviews—owners and tradesmen	37
Infectious disease and disinfection	17
Smoke observation	15

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

(a) Sewage Works

The sewage works have operated normally during the year and a satisfactory effluent has generally been maintained. It has, however, been necessary to recognise the fact that due to the continued development of the district and the contribution over the next year or so from Biddulph Moor, extensions to the works on the lines contemplated in the original scheme of reconstruction will be necessary in the relatively near future.

(b) Sewerage generally

The Biddulph Moor Sewerage Scheme, approved in 1959 at a cost of approximately £31,000 was commenced in August. The work of laying new sewers proved satisfactory and notices were sent to owners of the various properties concerning new drainage and closet conversions. When the Sewerage Scheme is completed approximately 200 pail closets, etc., will be converted to water closets. Quite a few owners of properties in the Biddulph Moor area are taking advantage of the Standard Grants scheme and are having bathrooms,, etc. installed at the same time as closet conversions are being carried out.

(c) Septic Tanks, Cesspools, etc.

There are still approximately 100 septic tanks and cesspools serving properties in the more scattered parts of the district, some of which will be abolished as a result of the Biddulph Moor Sewerage Scheme.

The completion of the Biddulph Moor Sewerage Scheme and the abolition of the many unsatisfactory septic tanks, cesspools, etc., will lead to considerable improvement in the pollution of water courses, ditches, etc., concerning which so many complaints have arisen in the past.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Number of houses served by water closets	3,824
Number of houses served by privies... ..	16
Number of houses served by privy pails	417
Particulars of conversions made during the year:—	
Pails converted to water closets	6
Privies converted to water closets	—

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The new conveniences in Wharf Road for males and females continued to suffer considerable wilful damage. It is difficult to prevent this damage and more difficult to understand the attitude of those responsible.

CLEAN AIR ACT

A smoke and sulphur dioxide recording apparatus which was installed in April, 1959, continued in operation throughout the year. This apparatus will give an indication of the amount of pollution from the domestic chimney taking place in the district.

No action has yet been taken in connection with Smoke Control areas and the Council has not yet amended the building byelaws concerning the provision of smokeless fuel appliances.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

There are no licensed sites in the area, but one licence under the Public Health Act was issued to station a caravan.

Under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960, all occupiers of sites and/or caravans are required to obtain licenses. This act is designed to keep Caravan Sites under control and two applications for licences under this act were under consideration at the end of the year.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The collection and disposal of house refuse and nightsoil is carried out by direct labour. A weekly service is given to practically the whole of the district.

The continued increase in building development resulting in an ever increasing demand upon the transport available necessitated a new refuse vehicle being ordered to replace the old Dennis. There was considerable delay in the delivery of this vehicle but finally the Dennis had to be taken off the road. These circumstances led to the Council having to hire a vehicle from an adjoining authority until delivery of the new one was made.

It is hoped that with the increased capacity of the new vehicle and the fact that it is a rear loading type, more premises can be given a regular service in a more hygienic manner.

All house refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at Black Bull and nightsoil is tipped at the sewage works.

SALVAGE

The collection and separation of waste paper salvage was continued during the year, providing a useful source of income from its sale.

Collections were curtailed for a short period due to transport difficulties, with a resultant decrease in tonnage compared with the previous year.

Income from salvage was as follows:—

Waste Paper, etc. (179 tons)	£1,412	4	0
Miscellaneous	£52	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£1,464	4	0
	<hr/>		

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

Under the provisions of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, the local authority is responsible for ensuring as far as possible that the district is kept free from rats and mice. Occupiers have a legal responsibility to notify the local authority if rats and mice are living on or resorting to their land and buildings in substantial numbers.

A further maintenance treatment of the Council's sewers was carried out, revealing as in recent years little evidence of rats. The refuse tip at Black Bull and the sewage works were treated as and when necessary.

The following tables give details of work undertaken during the year.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Non-Agricultural				
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (Including Council Houses)	(3) All Other (Including Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1), (2), & (3)	(5) Agri- cultural
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	3	3,914	240	4157	193
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of:	—	23	4	27	—
(a) Notification					
(b) Survey under the Act	3	9	3	15	33
(c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose)	—	—	134	134	—
III. Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections	40	55	150	245	33
IV. Number of properties inspected (in Sect. II) which were found to be infested by:—					
(a) Rats	—	—	—	—	—
(Major)	2	25	2	29	—
(Minor)					
(b) Mice	—	—	—	—	—
(Major)	1	1	1	3	—
(Minor)					
V. Number of infested properties (in Sect. IV) treated by the L.A.	3	26	3	32	—
VI. Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments	16	30	3	49	—

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1. Inspections

Premises	Number on Register	Number of	
		Inspections	Written Notices
(i) Factories without mechanical power (S.1.2.3.4.6.)	—	—	—
(ii) Factories with mechanical power (S.7)	37	32	3
(iii) Other premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises)	2	10	—
(iv) Outworkers	17	—	—
Total ...	56	42	3

2. Cases in which Defects were Found

Particulars	Defects Found	Defects Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):			
(a) Insufficient	2	1	1
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	2	—	1
(c) Not separate for sexes...	—	—	—
Other offences	1	1	—
Total ...	5	2	2

SECTION E—HOUSING

Number of houses erected by Private Enterprise	52
Number of houses erected by Local Authority	Nil
Total ...	52

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts) 24
- (b) Number of inspections for the purpose 105
2. (a) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 3
- (b) Number (excluding those in sub-head 2 (a) above) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 7

2. Remedy of defects during the year without the Service of Formal Notices

Number of houses where defects were remedied 16

3. Action under Statutory Powers

- (a) Notices served under Section 9 of the Housing Act 1957 —
- (b) Notices served under Public Health Acts requiring defects to be remedied 2
- (c) Number of houses rendered fit after service of Formal Notices —
- (d) Proceedings under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957 3
- (e) Number of houses included under sub-head 3 (d) above, in respect of which an undertaking was accepted by the Council 1
- (f) Number of Demolition Orders made 1
- (g) Number of unfit houses demolished —
- (h) Number of Closing Orders made 1

Steady progress was made during the year on the clearance of unfit houses. The Magpie Cottages Clearance Order (9 houses) was confirmed by the Minister during the year. The families to be displaced will be rehoused as soon as the houses to be built for them are available.

Three individual Unfit houses were represented to the Council, resulting in one Demolition Order and one Closing Order being made and an undertaking accepted in respect of the third house.

Rent Act 1957.—No application for certificates of disrepair were received during the year.

Improvement Grants and Standard Grants

The Council does not operate the improvement grant scheme now known as discretionary grants, but the House Purchase and Housing Act 1959 makes it obligatory on the Council to make Standard Grants for the provision of bathrooms, hot water supply, etc. During the year 36 applications were received involving maximum grants totalling £4,135. Many properties in the district lack these standard amenities and it is anticipated that many more applications will be made. The scheme is a sound one and has much to commend it.

The provision of amenities to 20 houses has been completed since the scheme commenced involving the provision of 17 baths, 17 wash-hand basins, 16 hot water supplies, 12 water closets and 4 satisfactory food stores. 152 inspections and re-inspections were made.

SECTION F

MEAT INSPECTION AND SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are three licensed slaughterhouses in the district, all privately owned and used by four butchers resident in the area and two outside. The Council's Slaughterhouse Report made under the Slaughterhouses Act 1958, which was submitted to the Minister in December, 1959, was approved during the year and the Minister made the "appointment day" the 1st October, 1960, by which date all three slaughterhouses had to comply fully with the new construction regulations.

By the end of the year all three slaughterhouses complied with the new Regulations and the necessary licenses were issued.

The reconstruction of the Slaughterhouses should lead to a higher standard of hygiene and with the installation of Stunning Pens prevent any likelihood of cruelty to beasts at the time of slaughter.

As in previous years since private slaughtering was resumed a 100 per cent. inspection of all animals killed has been carried out.

FOOD HYGIENE

The Food Hygiene Regulations which have now been in force since 1st July, 1956, and which contained provisions in respect of the hygienic handling of food and the construction of food premises, have proved extremely valuable in improving the conditions under which food is stored and sold. All food premises in the district have been inspected under the new regulations and many improvements have been carried out, such as the installation of hot water supply, wash-hand basins, new sinks and other fittings.

The improvement in the condition of premises and the provision of proper facilities to encourage food hygiene, desirable as they are, still leaves the occupier of the premises with the responsibility of ensuring that food is displayed and handled in a hygienic manner. It is this point which requires constant attention by all concerned.

ICE CREAM AND PRESERVED FOOD PREMISES

Ice Cream.—There are 51 premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act, of which only two manufacture ice cream. The remainder sell a pre-packed product distributed by the large and well-known manufacturing companies. The premises where manufacture takes place comply with the Heat Treatment Regulations. The majority of shops selling ice cream sell a wrapped product with a consequent reduction in the risk of contamination.

Food Preparing Premises.—There are 11 premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act, eight of which are butchers. Conditions generally were satisfactory.

MILK SUPPLY

The sampling of milk for bacteriological cleanliness, biological testing and for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act is carried out by the Staffordshire County Council.

All milk sold retail is now bottled and of three types. "Tuberculin Tested," "Pasteurised" and "Sterilised." Details of samples taken appear in Section B of the report.

There are 45 persons registered as distributors of milk and a total of 11 visits and inspections were made to farms, dairies and milk shops.

The number of licences issued under the various regulations for special designated milk is as follows:—

	Dealers' Licences	Supplementary Licences
Tuberculin Tested	7	5
Pasteurised	2	7
Sterilised	38	14

FOOD PREMISES

The following is a summary of the various types of food premises in the area, together with details of the number of inspections made:—

	Number of Premises	Number of Inspections
Ice Cream Premises	51	25
Butchers' Shops	13	46
General Food Shops	85	64
Bakehouses	3	5
Canteens, Kitchens, etc.	13	19
Fried Fish and Chip Shops	4	13
Slaughterhouses	3	510

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle exclud'g Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected ...	44	544	4	1953	689
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	1
Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned ...	3	58	—	123	15
Percentages ...	7.0%	10.7%	—	6.3%	2.2%
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned ...	—	23	—	—	5
Percentages ...	—	4.2%	—	—	.7%
Cysticercosis					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—

Weights Condemned

Meat	307 lbs.
Offal (Head and tongue, lungs, liver, heart, etc.)	1499 lbs
Total ...	1806 lbs.

All condemned meat is stained green before leaving the slaughterhouses and is disposed of for animal feeding purposes.

There are 16 men licensed to slaughter animals under the provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Acts.

RAINFALL FOR 1960

These figures were kindly supplied by the Biddulph Grange Orthopaedic Hospital.

Month	Rainfall in inches	Month	Rainfall in inches
January	5.79	July	4.55
February	2.51	August	5.00
March	0.97	September	4.37
April	1.33	October	4.80
May	1.62	November	5.01
June	3.25	December	4.38
Total ... 43.58 inches			

